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STATE OF DELAWARE

BOARD OF CLINICAL SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS

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PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES: BOARD OF CLINICAL SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS

MEETING DATE AND TIME: Monday, September 21, 2015 at 9:00 a.m.

PLACE: 861 Silver Lake Boulevard, Dover, Delaware

Conference Room A, second floor of the Cannon Building

MINUTES APPROVED: 10/19/2015

MEMBERS PRESENT

Rochelle Mason, Professional Member, **President**, Presiding John Mucha, Professional Member, **Vice President**Kyla Teed, Public Member **Secretary** (9:05 a.m. – 11:54 a.m.)
Sandra Bisgood, Public Member
Tara Donofrio, Public Member (9:05 a.m. – 11:34 a.m.)
Florienda Scott-Cobb, Professional Member

DIVISION STAFF/DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL PRESENT

Eileen Kelly, Deputy Attorney General David Mangler, Director Jessica Williams, Administrative Specialist II

MEMBERS ABSENT

Lori Malloy, Professional Member

ALSO PRESENT

Dr. John Austin, Delaware State University
Pat Fletcher, Widener University
Dr. Fran Franklin, Delaware State University
Dr. Batya Hyman, Salisbury University
Fran Livingston, NASW – DE
Vicki Root, Salisbury University
Dr. Marlene Saunders, NASW – DE
Shallea Smith, NASW – DE
Philip Thompson, NASW- DE
Verity Watson, Division of Research

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Mason called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Board reviewed September 4, 2015 minutes for approval. Mr. Mucha moved, seconded by Ms. Mason, to approve the minutes with corrections. Motion unanimously carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Educational Presentations from Schools of Social Work

Dr. Hyman, the Department Chair from Salisbury University addressed the Board regarding Salisbury University's Social Work programs. Dr. Hyman reported that currently Salisbury University offers social work programs at the bachelors and masters levels. She reported that in August, Salisbury University established an online Master Social Work program. Dr. Hyman advised the Board that the social work program at Salisbury University currently has 20 full time faculty, and 40 adjunct instructors. Additionally, there are approximately 372 students enrolled in the undergraduate program, along with 320 graduate students. She reported that the undergraduate program aims to create generalist practitioners.

Dr. Hyman reported that many of the faculty members have reviewed past licensure exams in order to ensure they are addressing the content of the examination throughout the program. She also reported that Salisbury University offers a "good neighbor discount" to Delaware residents. Dr. Hyman advised the Board that the Department offers workshops every January to prepare students for the national exam. She reported that the challenges the University are currently facing is the reaccreditation process and ensuring the number of faculty. Dr. Hyman advised the Board that she supports multi-level licensure for Delaware and Maryland students who wish to practice in both jurisdictions. Lastly, Dr. Hyman reported that the Department of Labor statistics show that the social work profession will balloon within 20 years.

Ms. Fletcher addressed the Board regarding the social work programs offered by Widener University. She reported that Widener University offers social work programs at the bachelors and masters levels. Widener University has designated clinical facility, that only teach clinical courses. Ms. Fletcher reported that the University offers several certificate programs, in addition to offering online social work programs. Ms. Fletcher reported that some of the challenges that the University are facing are the multiple demands of the students, and the cost for higher education. In order to address the multiple demands of the students, an online program was established. Ms. Fletcher reported that there are approximately 100 students enrolled in the online program. She reported that the University has a commitment to civic engagement. Ms. Fletcher advised the Board of many of the University's accomplishments, such as providing supervision to MSW students, and proving free CE events for field instructors. She advised the Board of the various field placements that are available to students. Ms. Fletcher reported that an exam prep course was developed by former faculty members and is offered every spring. Additionally, second year students attend a medication advocacy day, in order to inquire about medications that may be discussed on the examination.

Dr. Austin and Dr. Franklin, representatives from Delaware State University addressed the Board regarding the social work programs currently offered by the University. Dr. Austin reported that there are approximately 220 individuals enrolled in the BSW program annually, and between 60-90 individuals enrolled in the MSW program on an annual basis. Dr. Austin reported that in 2016, Delaware State University will begin offering Social Work programs online. He reported that the MSW program is an advanced generalist program, and the University is focusing on developing a stronger clinical experience for the students. Dr. Austin reported that the University offers exam prep courses. He reported that the issues across the nation are the levels of pay for social workers, that the University does not have many opportunities to help the students financially. Dr. Austin advised the Board that approximately 85% - 95% of MSW students work full time. Dr. Franklin reported that she is proud of the University's Connected Degree Program. According to Dr. Franklin, students who are enrolled in the connected degree program, attend Delaware Technical and Community College, to obtain their human services degree. Once the associate's degree is obtained, they would then transfer Delaware State University to complete their social work course work for their bachelor's degree. Dr. Franklin reported that there are approximately 10-15 students currently enrolled in the Connected Degree Program. Dr. Franklin advised

the Board that social work is a profession that offers a stream of possibilities. She believes that multi-level licensure will benefit the individuals receiving social work services, as well as identify individuals who are currently working in the capacity of a social worker.

Mr. Mangler informed the Board that individuals, who obtain a human service degree from Delaware Tech, could transfer to Delaware State University for their BSW through the Connected Degree Program. He advised the board that this might create a problem where people are unemployable. Ms. Scott-Cobb suggested potentially create a certification for certain groups (i.e. individuals graduating from the Connected Degree Program.

Review of Application to Sit for ASWB Exam (Full Board Review Needed)

Mr. Mucha moved, seconded by Ms. Bisgood, to approve the application to sit for the ASWB Clinical Exam for Sheila Nichols. Motion unanimously carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Discussion Regarding Joint Sunset Committee Recommendations

The Board reviewed the latest draft of the proposed legislation that Ms. Kelly prepared. Ms. Scott-Cobb voiced her concern regarding supervision; she believes that only social workers should be supervising social workers, as other professionals do not have what it takes to supervise social workers. Dr. Saunders informed the Board, advising the Board that there is a relationship between the pass/fail rates of the examination and the supervision an applicant receives.

Mr. Manger reminded the Board that their purpose is not to advance the profession, but their mission is the protection of the public. Ms. Scott-Cobb questioned why the Board is considering continuing to allow psychiatrists and psychologists to provide supervision to social workers. Mr. Mangler questioned how many individuals who have received supervision from an individual other than a social; worker, and how many people have received disciplinary action based off their supervision. He requested that the Board move forward with reviewing the final proposal, as opposed to retracting previous decisions made by the Board.

The Board observed a brief recess from 11:31 a.m. until 11:36 a.m.

Review Final Draft of Proposal Regarding Grandfathering and Exemption Provisions

The Board reviewed the final draft of the proposal regarding grandfathering and exemption provisions, which Ms. Kelly prepared based off the Board's previous discussions and decisions. Mr. Mucha moved, seconded by Ms. Bisgood, to accept the revisions. Motion carried with Ms. Scott-Cobb abstaining.

<u>Discussion Regarding Joint Sunset Committee Recommendations</u>

Ms. Williams advised the Board that the JSC will be provided an update of the Board's progress.

Discussion Regarding HB 69

Ms. Williams advised the Board that House Bill 69 was not a Bill sponsored by the Division of Professional Regulation.

The Board will continue their discussion regarding potential regulations during their next regularly scheduled meeting.

Review of CE's Submitted by Carl White Pursuant to Final Order

The Board reviewed the CE certificate submitted by Carl White, pursuant to his final order. Ms. Mason moved, seconded by Ms. Scott-Cobb, to approve two hours in the area of ethics; and to request the course outline and syllabus, in order to determine if the course addresses the additional stipulations in the consent agreement. Motion unanimously carried.

OTHER BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD (FOR DISCUSSION ONLY)

Ms. Mason advised the board that she received an email what was forwarded from Dr. Saunders from a NASW – DE member. According to Ms. Mason, the licensee is currently in Australia conducting research and was inquiring about CE. Ms. Mason will advise the licensee that the Board does not pre-approve CE's. Ms. Kelly requested that Ms. Williams be copied into the response of the email. Dr. Saunders informed the Board that she was previously advised not to copy Ms. Williams on the emails from NASW-DE members. Ms. Williams clarified to Dr. Saunders, and the Board, that all incoming inquiries should be sent to the Division of Professional Regulations customer service email for tracking purposes. If the information center is unable to answer the question, the inquiry is then forwarded to Ms. Williams.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Dr. Saunders addressed the Board and provided an update on the NASW-DE progress on addressing the JSC recommendation. Dr. Saunders reported that the NASW-DE has scheduled monthly exam preparation workshops, which are scheduled to begin in October 2015 and end in August 2016. She reported that the NASW created an Ad-Hoc Committee, consisting of Mr. Philip Thompson, Dr. Fran Franklin, and Dr. Sheridan-Kingsbury. Dr. Saunders reported that she and Norwood Coleman, the NASW President met with Mr. Mangler to discuss issues pertaining to licensure. The NASW-DE has also developed a survey to circulate to NASW-DE members, in an attempt to obtain their feedback regarding the Board's proposals for multi-level licensure, grandfathering provisions, and exemptions. Dr. Saunders advised the Board that the collaboration with the NASW-DE shows that the changes made by the Board were not in isolation. The Board thanked Dr. Saunders for her support.

OTHER BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD (FOR DISCUSSION ONLY)

Ms. Scott-Cobb suggested that the Board consider holding a meeting in each county during the next year, as the JSC tasked the Board with outreach. Mr. Mangler advised the Board that the meetings would need to be held in a public location and proper notice would need to be posted.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Dr. Saunders inquired if it were possible to have the latest draft of the proposed legislation posted to the Board's website. Mr. Mangler advised Dr. Saunders that he will not post the latest draft of the proposal in an attempt to avoid confusion. Ms. Kelly advised Dr. Saunders that the Board voted to accept the proposal with the amendments, and the synopsis of the proposal will reflect the changes. Ms. Williams suggested that the Board send the synopsis out to all licensees, via an email blast, once approved by Mr. Mangler advised the Board that once the synopsis is updated, he will send an email blast to all licensees.

Dr. Saunders inquired if it would be beneficial to have stakeholders submit letters of support. Mr. Mangler advised Dr. Saunders that letters of support from stakeholders would be submitted once the bill gets a number.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on October 19, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. in Conference Room A.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Bisgood moved, seconded by Ms. Scott-Cobb, to adjourn the meeting. Motion unanimously carried. There being no further business before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 12:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Georica M. Williams

Jessica M. Williams, Administrative Specialist II Delaware Board of Clinical Social Work Examiners